

January 13, 2003

Marlene H. Dortch  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 Twelfth St., S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: Western Wireless' Limited, Conditional Petition for  
Waiver of Number Pooling Obligations in McAllen-  
Edinburg-Mission, Texas,  
CC Docket no. 99-200, CC Docket No. 96-86, CC Docket  
No. 95-116.**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Western Wireless Corp. made an *ex parte* presentation today to Cheryl Callahan, Pam Slipakoff, Jared Carlson, Marilyn Jones, and Jennifer Salhus of the Commission, highlighting the waiver Western filed on November 27, 2002, in the proceeding referred to above. Joining me were my colleagues, Suzie Rao and Bob Keeger, who participated in the meeting via telephone conference call from our Bellevue, Washington headquarters. Our outside counsel, Chuck Keller, accompanied me.

My colleagues and I stressed that it would be enormously wasteful of limited resources for Western to participate in mandatory thousands-block number pooling for a few rate centers within the above-referenced Combined Metropolitan Statistical Area

If you have any questions, then please contact me at 202-654-5903.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Rubin  
Director of Federal Government Affairs  
Western Wireless Corp.